

Message Text

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44

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 NEA-10 /053 W

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R 260325Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9140

INFO US MISSION GENEVA 905

UNCLAS BANGKOK 4345

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESCAP, OCON, ETEL

SUBJ: ESCAP: INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING PARTY ON CONSTITUTION FOR
ASIA PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY, FEB 17-23, BANGKOK

REF: BANGKOK 3638

1. SUMMARY: INTENSIVE WEEK OF DRAFTING FINALLY PRODUCED
AGREED TEXT OF CONSTITUTION FOR ASIA PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY
(5 COPIES AIRMAILED STOKES IN 10/CMD) END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING MEMBERS ATTENDED: AFGHANISTAN, AUSTRALIA,
BANGLADESH, FRANCE, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAN, JAPAN, MALAYSIA,
NEPAL, NEW SEALAND, PAKISTAN, PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE, THAILAND,
USSR, UK AND U.S. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS WERE HONG KONG AND PAPUA
NEW GUINEA. ACTIVE DRAFTERS WERE: AUSTRALIA, BANGLADESH,
INDIA, JAPAN AND SINGAPORE. PRINCIPAL DRAFTS USED WERE FROM
UN LEGAL OFFICE, JAPAN, INDIA AND SINGAPORE.

3. ATMOSPHERICS: ORGANIZATION OF MEETING, WITH PLENARY
SESSION IN MORNING AND DRAFTING COMMITTEE IN AFTERNOON, LED
TO ENDLESS DEBATE BECAUSE ARTICLES AGREED UPON AT ONE
SESSION WOULD CONTINUALLY BE REDRAFTED AT ANOTHER. LIKE
A NIGHTMARE, GAME NEVER SEEMED TO END. HOWEVER, THIS HAD
BEEN GOING ON AT EARLIER MEETINGS FOR OVER TWO YEARS AND
MOST OF THE EXPERTS PARTICIPATING SEEMED ACCUSTOMED TO IT.
NO ONE SCREAMED IN FRUSTRATION, MOST JUST SHRUGGED THEIR
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SHOULDERS--AND KEPT REDRAFTING OTHERS' TEXT.

4. RESULTS: FINAL DRAFT THUS OBTAINED CAN NOT BE CAHNGED ON IOTA. IT MUST BE ACCEPTED AS IS "WARTS, TYPOS AND ALL" OR THERE IS NO CONSTITUTION. THE TEXT WILL BE CIRCULATED BEFORE ESCAP 32ND SESSION WITH A REQUEST THAT REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES COME AUTHORIZED TO SIGN IT ON APRIL 1. IT ENTERS INTO FORCE 30 DAYS AFTER SEVEN MEMBERS HAVE RATIFIED IT.

5. RESERVATIONS: AT LAST MINUTE JAPAN RESERVED ON APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 12 REGARDING PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES. JAPAN CONSTANTLY WORRIED ABOUT THE STATUS OF CONSTITUTION BETWEEN TIME OF SIGNING AND RATIFICATION. JAPAN AND INDONESIA BOTH BLOCKED INSERTION OF ANY LANGUAGE RELATING TO TARIFF RATES, RATE STRUCTURE OR BENEFICIAL RATE STRUCTURE TO CHAGRIN OF INDIA, BANGLADESH AND PAKISTAN. (PREFERENTIAL RATES WILL OBVIOUSLY BE MAIN TOPIC OF ATTENTION WHEN TELECOMMUNITY CREATED, BUT YOU CAN NOT TELL THIS FROM CONSTITUTION.)

6. HONG KONG IS DEFINITELY ON ASSOCIATE MEMBER AFTER PRC DECLARATION MADE ON THE SECOND DAY AND DESCRIBED REFTEL.

7. ESCAP SECRETARIAT BELIEVES TELECOMMUNITY'S TIME HAS COME. OVER \$700 MILLION IN TELECOMMUNICATION INVESTMENTS ARE PROJECTED THIS YEAR IN ESCAP DEVELOPINGCOUNTRIES WHILE JAPAN ALONE PALNS TO INVEST OVER \$2 BILLION. ESCAP COUNTRIES NEED A FORUM IN WHICH TO MAKE THEIR SYSTEMS COMPATIBLE AND ULTIMATELY REDUCE RATES ON INTRA-REGIONAL TRAFFIC.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TELECOMMUNICATION, CONSTITUTION, MEETING AGENDA, CONSULTANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BANGKO04345
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760072-0855
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760212/aaaaajnt.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BANGKOK 3638
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: castelsl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <02 SEP 2004 by castelsl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ESCAP: INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING PARTY ON CONSTITUTION FOR ASIA PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY, FEB 17-23, BANGKOK
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Type: TE
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